

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /072 W

-----081136Z 093744 /20

R 080900Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7682

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL UDORN

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0257

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SOCI SHUM SOPN PFOR EAID VN LA

SUBJ: MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE DELEGATION TO SRV

1. ACCORDING TO MURRAY HEIBERT, DIRECTOR OF MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE IN VIENTIANE, MCC DELEGATION WHICH VISITED SRV FIRST TWO WEEKS OF JANUARY CONSISTED OF AMCITS MAX EDIGER AND DON SENSENIG, AND BRITISH OR CANADIAN CITIZEN HAROLD JANTZ.

2. HEIBERT TOLD EMBOFF FEBRUARY 8 THAT THE DELEGATION MADE THE TRIP BOTH TO INSPECT MCC PROJECTS SUCH AS A CLINIC IN NORTHERN VIETNAM AND ALSO TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT PRESENT VIETNAMESE CONDITIONS SO THAT THEY MIGHT BETTER INFORM PEOPLE BACK IN THE U.S.

3. HEIBERT SAID THE DELEGATION WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN HUMAN RIGHTS IN VIETNAM. UPON RETURNING
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FROM THE VISIT THEY TOLD HEIBERT THAT, ALTHOUGH THEY DID NOT OBSERVE ANY HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, THEY WERE AWARE THAT AS GUESTS OF THE SRV GOVERNMENT THEIR VIEW WAS LIMITED.

4. HEIBERT SAID THE DELEGATION SPENT FOUR DAYS IN DANANG AND THE REST OF THE TIME IN THE VICINITY OF

HANOI. ONE OF THE DELEGATION MEMBERS WHO SPOKE VIET-
NAMESE RELATED TO HEIBERT A CONVERSATION HE HAD WITH A
VIETNAMESE FURNITURE MAKER IN DANANG. THE MAN COMPLAINED
THAT BUSINESS WAS POOR BECAUSE SO FEW VIETNAMESE HAD
MONEY TO BUY FURNITURE BUT THAT, IN HIS OPINION, LIFE
IN A CRUMBLING CITY WAS STILL PREFERABLE TO LIFE IN THE
COUNTRYSIDE.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: SOCI, SHUM, SOPN, PFOR, EAID, VN, LA, MENNONITE CENTRAL COMT
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